6.   (Amended) A self-destructing e-mail messaging system, comprising:

an executable module, the executable module configured to instruct a computer to <u>automatically</u> delete a message to which the executable module is attached <u>when a predetermined condition is met</u>;

an e-mail messaging system, the e-mail messaging system configured to create an e-mail message and to transmit the e-mail message, the e-mail messaging system attaching the executable module to the e-mail message prior to transmission.

17.   (Amended) The system according to claim [16] <u>15</u>, wherein said predetermined condition is printing, copying or forwarding the e-mail message.

18.   (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is an encrypted document, and wherein the executable module is configured to instruct the computer to decrypt the document if [a] <u>the</u> predetermined condition is met, and to delete the document if the predetermined condition is not met.

19.   (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the message is an encrypted message, and wherein the executable module is configured to instruct the computer to decrypt the message if [a] <u>the</u> predetermined condition is met, and to delete the message if the predetermined condition is not met.

In claim 21, lines 8 and 11, replace "electronic" with - - digital - -.
In claim 23, lines 19 and 22, replace "electronic" with - - digital - -.
In claim 32, lines 16 and 18, replace "electronic" with - - digital - -.

44. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the executable module overwrites the document with null characters.